

Message Text

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11
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 PM-04 /051 W
----- 080644

R 020540Z SEP 76
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4114
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC (PROCTOR, NORMAN E.)
SUBJECT: TWO AMERICAN AIRMEN RELEASED AND DEPART ASMARA

REF: (A) ASMARA 0655 (NOTAL), (B) ASMARA 0559 (NOTAL), (C) ADDIS
ABABA 9943 (NOTAL)

1. AMERICAN AIRMEN NORMAN PROCTOR AND DONALD S. KELLEY WERE RELEASED FROM CUSTODY AT IMPERIAL HOTEL ON THE MORNING OF SEPT. 1 AND WERE ESCORTED TO THE AIRPORT BY EPMG IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS. THEIR PASSPORTS WERE RETURNED TO THEM AND AFTER FILING A FLIGHT PLAN THEY DEPARTED ASMARA FOR JIDDA AT 0920Z (1220 LOCAL).

2. EPMG OFFICIAL STATED THAT THEIR CASE WAS SUBMITTED TO ADDIS FOR DECISION ON AUGUST 26 AND THAT IT WAS REVIEWED BY THE DIRG. THE DECISION WAS GIVEN BY TELEPHONE TO CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR FIKRU

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SHORTLY AFTER CONGEN INQUIRED ABOUT STATUS OF CASE DURING MEETING

WITH FIKRU AUGUST 31. VERBAL DECISION WAS TRANSMITTED TO PROCTOR AND KELLEY WHO THEN CONSIDERED REMAINING IN ASMARA SEVERAL MORE DAYS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A FLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR SUDAN. EPMG OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, MADE IT CLEAR THAT AIRMEN WERE TO LEAVE ASMARA AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE ON SEPT. 1.

3. PROCTOR, A FORMER USAF OFFICER AND THE FATHER OF EIGHT CHILDREN, IS A RETIRED BUILDING CONTRACTOR WHO ALSO OPERATED A SMALL ACCOUNTING AND REAL ESTATE BUSINESS. AS HE APPROACHED 50, HE DECIDED TO "GET OUT OF THE RUT" AND HE BEGAN HIS CURRENT TRIP TO AFRICA THE DAY AFTER HIS 50TH BIRTHDAY. HE STATES HE WOULD LIKE TO WORK AND LIVE IN AFRICA FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS AN AIR TAXI OPERATOR; ONCE HE FINDS AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY HE WILL HAVE HIS WIFE SELL HIS BUSINESS AND JOIN HIM IN AFRICA. HIS CURRENT PLANS, WHICH ARE SOMEWHAT AMORPHOUS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE, ARE, ON RECEIPT OF CLEARANCE, TO FLY TO KHARTOUM FROM JIDDA, AND FROM THERE TO NDJAMENA, TO KANO AND TO LAGOS.

4. KR. KELLEY IS ABOUT 35, DIVORCED AND BECAME ACQUAINTED WITH PROCTOR BY MARRIAGE TO HIS NIECE. HE IS AN ENGINEER BY TRAINING, AND THE PRESIDENT OF HIS OWN FIRM, EFFECTIVE SERVICE PLANNERS, OF SEATTLE. HE IS THE MORE VOLATILE OF THE TWO, ALTHOUGH HE HAS TRAVELED OUTSIDE THE U.S., WHILE PROCTOR HAS NOT. HE PLANS TO RETURN TO THE U.S. "IN SEVERAL MONTHS", BUT SEEMS VAGUE ABOUT HIS PLANS.

5. PROCTOR AND KELLEY HAVE SOME EXPENSIVE EQUIPMENT WITH THEM INCLUDING FIVE FIREARMS; TWO RIFLES, TWO SHOTGUNS AND ONE LARGE-CALIBER PISTOL. THEY CLAIM THESE WEAPONS ARE FOR HUNTING: THE BOLT-ACTION RIFLES ARE FITTED WITH SCOPES AND THE SHOTGUNS ARE SINGLE SHOT. ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES WERE AWARE OF THESE WEAPONS BUT FORTUNATELY INDICATED NO INTEREST IN SEIZING THEM. PROCTOR AND KELLEY WERE CAUTIONED BY THE CONSOFF THAT THEY SHOULD DECLARE THESE WEAPONS ON ENTERING EACH COUNTRY ALONG THEIR ROUTE.

6. THE HAPHAZARD NATURE OF PROCTOR AND KELLEY'S TRAVELS ARE COMPOUNDED BY THE FACT THAT THEY SEEM TO HAVE PLANNED TO RECEIVE MONEY SENT BY THEIR FAMILIES ALONG THEIR ROUTE, RATHER THAN CARRY MONEY WITH THEM. THE MORNING OF THEIR DEPARTURE THEY CLAIMED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THEY HAD INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY THEIR HOTEL BILL. THEY HAD NEITHER TRAVELLERS CHECKS, CREDIT CARDS OR PERSONAL CHECKS. FINALLY PROCTOR FOUND A SINGLE PERSONAL CHECK AND WAS ABLE TO SETTLE ALL THE ACCOUNTS. HE HAS REQUESTED HIS WIFE TO WIRE FUNDS TO HIM IN JIDDA THROUGH AN AFFILIATE OF AN AMERICAN BANK.

SLUTZ

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